YOU HAVE DONE WELL, COOPER, AND THE MASTER WILL BE PLEASED. WITH THIS ACT, YOU SECURE YOUR READMITTANCE INTO THE DARK LANDS. YOUR LONG EXILE IS FINALLY AT AN END.
BUT FIRST YOU MUST OFFER UP THESE CARDS TO THE EVIL ONE, INVOKING HIS TRUE NAME, AFTER SOAKING THE INFICIO AQUILUS TAROT IN THE BLOOD OF A FRESHLY REMOVED HUMAN HEAR--
YEAH YEAH, THAT'S GREAT-- EXCEPT I'M NOT OFFERING THESE CARDS UP TO ANYONE.
I'M KEEPING THEM FOR MYSELF.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, COOPER...
...YOU'RE DOUBLE-CROSSING US?

WELL, OF COURSE I'M DOUBLE-CROSSING YOU.
WHEN I RETURN TO THE NETHER REALMS, IT WON'T BE TO SERVE, IT WILL BE TO RULE--AND THE POWER THESE CARDS HOLD ASSURES ME OF THAT.
"RETURN TO THE NETHER--"!? WAITAMINUTE... COOPER'S A DEMON? I THOUGHT HE WAS A MUTANT!
NEWS TO ME.
TAKE THESE CARDS, THE NOTORIOUS INFICIO AQUILUS TAROT, AND KNOW THAT THEY BIND YOU TO ME.
THEIR POWER IS MY POWER, AND MY EVERY COMMAND IS YOUR MOST FERVENT DESIRE.
NOT ONLY WILL YOU WORSHIP AND SERVE ME AS THE NEW DARK GOD OF THE UNDERWORLD, BUT YOU WILL LEAD ARMIES IN MY NAME TO RAZE THIS MISERABLE PLANET INTO A FIERY HELL, POPULATED ONLY BY NIGHTMARE AND TERROR, ENDLESS HORROR AND ETERNAL PAIN.
UM, REMY, IF THIS GUY'S ABOUT TO DESTROY THE WORLD, SHOULDN'T YOU, LIKE, BE STOPPING HIM INSTEAD OF WATCHING HIM?
S'ALL UNDER CONTROL, CHÈRE.

"YOU SEE, LILI, IF YOU WANT TO PUT SOMETHING OVER ON SOMEONE, YOU GOTTA REMEMBER THREE THINGS IF YOU EXPECT TO GET AWAY WITH IT.
"THE FIRST THING IS TO NEVER LET THE MARK KNOW WHO SET HIM UP, OR THAT THEY'RE BEING SET UP.
"THAT'S THE REASON WOLVERINE AND I HIT ALL OF COOPER'S OPERATIONS. A FRONTAL ASSAULT TO COVER THE FACT WE WERE SNEAKIN' IN THE BACK DOOR."
ALPHONSE. I NEED YOU TO HEAD BACK TO COOPER'S OFFICE AND LEAVE YOUR BOSS A LITTLE SURPRISE. THEN GET OUT OF TOWN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE--AN' DON'T EVER LOOK BACK.
"AND THE SUCKER'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT 'IM."
EXACTLY WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL, COOPER?
THIS ISN'T THE INFICIO AQUILUS DECK. THESE AREN'T EVEN TAROT CARDS. THIS IS A DECK OF UNO CARDS.
THE SPONGEBILL SQUARESHORTS EDITION.
UM...
...WHAT?!

"AND SO, A BIT LATER, AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT..."
LeBEAU...
...I HAD A FEELING YOU'D SHOW UP 'ROUND HERE.
BLAMBLAMBLAMBLAM
BWOOM

I BET YOU'RE CHARGING UP SOME CARDS FOR A SUPER-POWERED *COUNTER-STRIKE*, AREN'T YOU...*GAMBIT*?
AND I BET RIGHT ABOUT *NOW* YOU'RE WONDERING HOW COME THE KINETIC CHARGE OF YOUR CARDS IS *FLICKERING AWAY*.
MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH *THIS*. GOT IT OFF THE BLACK MARKET, FROM SOME EX-S.H.I.E.L.D. LABORATORY EGGHEAD.
IT'S A ONE-OF-A-KIND PROTOTYPE, DESIGNED TO DAMPEN ALL MUTANT *POWERS* IN A 50-FOOT RADIUS.
LET'S SEE HOW MUCH *FIGHT* YOU GOT IN A *LEVEL* PLAYING FIELD, TOUGH GUY.
HOLD ON A MINUTE! I'M NOT HERE TO *FIGHT* YOU, YA BIG SLOBBERING PEA-BRAIN.

YEAH, I KINDA THOUGHT YOU'D CHANGE YOUR TUNE, SUPER HERO. DON'T HAVE THE SKILLS WITHOUT YOUR MUTIE POWERS, DO YA?
JESSUP...YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO ME. YOU'RE IN DANGER.
YOU REMIND ME OF THE GUY I LIFTED THIS PROTOTYPE FROM. I WAS GONNA PAY HIM--WITH THE MONEY I STOLE OUT OF YOUR APARTMENT--BUT KILLIN' HIM WAS SO MUCH EASIER.
JESSUP. SHUT UP FOR A MINUTE. COOPER IS ON HIS WAY TO--
COOPER? WHAT'S ONE MORE PIECE OF MUTIE TRASH? BRING HIM ON. WITH THIS MUTANT ENERGY DAMPENER, YOU GUYS ARE ABOUT AS DANGEROUS AS A PAIR OF ANGRY TOY POODLES.
I'LL JUST KILL HIM LIKE I KILLED THAT OLD SCIENTIST. MAKE HIM BEG FOR MERCY AN' CRY LIKE A LITTLE GIRL...THEN I'LL KILL HIM ANYWAY, JUST FOR LAUGHS.
YOU KNOW... KINDA LIKE I DID TO YOUR OLD PAL, DAN DOWN.
YOU GOT ME, JESSUP. I YIELD TO YOUR SUPERIOR INTELLECT. DAT'S A DANG GOOD PLAN, ALL RIGHT.
IT'D BE EVEN BETTER IF COOPER WAS ACTUALLY A MUTANT.
'CEPT HE AINT.
COOPER'S A DEMON.

AW, NUTS. WHAT AM I GONNA D--
HELLO, JACK.
COOP?
AAAIIEE!
SO MUCH FOR THE HIGH ROAD.

I THINK I CAN FIGURE OUT THE REST OF IT, REMY. I'M JUST CURIOUS HOW YOU KNEW I WAS ALIGNED WITH COOPER.
I DIDN'T, BUT THAT'S WHAT I CAME HERE TO FIGURE OUT.
I DIDN'T KNOW FOR SURE 'TIL YOU WALLOPED ME UPSIDE THE HEAD WITH A BOLT OF MAGICAL ENERGY AND I WOKE UP MYSTICALLY HOG-TIED.
I THOUGHT YOUR UNCLE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE MAGICIAN OF THE FAMILY.
OH, UNCLE MORGAN TRIED TO KEEP ME AWAY FROM HIS DEALINGS WITH THE OCCULT--THAT'S WHY I NEEDED YOU TO STEAL THE CARDS AND TAKE THE FALL FOR IT.
BUT I MANAGED TO LEARN A TRICK OR TWO FROM HIM, NONETHELESS.
AND IN THE END...I TAUGHT HIM A LESSON, TOO.
AT LEAST HE HAD ENOUGH BRAINS TO KEEP THAT TAROT DECK UNDER LOCK AND KEY AND NOT MESS WITH 'EM.
THOSE CARDS ARE POWERFUL EVIL, LILI, DEADLY AN' DANGEROUS.
AND IT WAS EXTRAORDINARILY STUPID OF YOU TO BRING THEM WITH YOU SO I COULD GET A HOLD OF THEM. THOSE CARDS, AND YOUR SACRIFICE, WILL MAKE ME FORMIDABLE BEYOND BELIEF.
LILI...DARLIN'... I'M TELLIN' YOU AGAIN, YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO DO THIS.
BESIDES, I SAID I HAD THREE PIECES OF ADVICE FOR YOU. DON'T YOU WANNA HEAR THE LAST OF IT?

I BET IT DOES. YOU'VE LOST YOUR CONCENTRATION. YOUR BINDING SPELL'S FADING AWAY.
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!
I TRIED TO TELL YOU, CHERIE, BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN. MY THIRD PIECE OF ADVICE--ALWAYS KEEP AN ACE IN THE HOLE.
IN THIS CASE, THE ACE BEING ONE OF THE NOTORIOUS "LOST" CARDS OF THE INFICIO AQUILUS TAROT, TAPED TO MY CHEST 'STEAD OF HIDDEN UP MY SLEEVE.
ONE OF THE CARDS IS POWERFUL AND PRIMAL ENOUGH TO BLIND ANYBODY WHO LOOKS AT 'EM...LOOKS LIKE IT DID A LITTLE MORE THAN THAT TO YOU, THOUGH.
INCOGNIZABLE
BUT HOW DID YOU FIND THE RIGHT ONE AND SURVI--?
THAT WAS MY OTHER ACE IN THE HOLE.
REMEMBER THE FRIEND I SAID WHO DID ME ONE LAST FAVOR? JUST SO HAPPENS THAT FOR THIS FRIEND, BLINDNESS AIN'T A PARTICULAR OBSTACLE.
HERE'S THE CARD YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR.
BLAST YOU, CAJUN, THAT FLAMIN' HURT!
AH, QUIT BEIN' SUCH A BIG CRYBABY, LOGAN. THEM PEEPERS'LL HEAL 'FORE YOU KNOW IT.
YOU AIN'T THE ONLY PERSON EVER BEEN BLIND, YOU KNOW.

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LITTLE MIXTURE OF MY OWN. BIT OF HOLY WATER, SMIDGE OF HYDROCHLORIC ACID.
IDIOT! YOU CAN'T DESTROY THEM LIKE THAT.
NO, BUT I CAN DULL THEIR POWER A BIT. AT LEAST FOR A WHILE.
THEN I CAN GET THEM TO WESTCHESTER. I GOT A BUDDY WHO CAN FREEZE ANYTHING TO JUST A SHADE ABOVE ABSOLUTE ZERO...
...ANOTHER WHO CAN BLAST THROUGH MORE'N TWO FEET OF SOLID STEEL...AND A FEW DAT CAN BENCH PRESS A SHERMAN TANK WITHOUT BREAKING A SWEAT.
IF DEY CAN'T OUTRIGHT DESTROY DESE SO-CALLED INDESTRUCTIBLE CARDS, I GOT NO DOUBT THEIR COMBINED EFFORTS CAN MANGLE 'EM INTO ORIGAMI.
SSSSSS
INCOGNIZABLE
NOOOOO!
I DON'T THINK SO, LIL.
WHACK!

YOU'RE FINISHED, GIRL. YOU HEAR THOSE SIRENS?
CAMILLE AND GINNY CALLED THE COPS JUS' AS SOON AS THEY SAW I HAD THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL.
WWEEOOOWWEEOOOWWEEOOOWWEEOOOWWEE
THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, LADIES.
MWAH.
KNOCK KNOCK
N.O.P.D. HOMICIDE. WE GOT A CALL ABOUT A--
YEAH, YEAH. YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE. GIRL IN THE BAR ROOM IS LILI PENROSE. KILLED HER UNCLE. DID A BUNCH OF MAGICAL HOO-DOO DAT LITERALLY BLEW UP IN HER FACE, AND STIRRED UP A WHOLE HEAP O' TROUBLE.
NOW, IF YOU DON'T MIND, THE WORLD'S SAFE FROM THE BAD GUYS-- AND I'VE HAD A *LOOONG* NIGHT. I TRUST YOU FOLKS CAN SORT IT ALL OUT.
SEE YA.
NOT SO FAST, BUD. YOU THINK WE'RE GOING TO LET A *MUTIE* JUST *STROLL* OUT OF HERE WHEN WE GOT A DEAD BODY IN ONE ROOM AND A MUTILATED WOMAN IN THE OTHER?
YOU BEST GUESS AGAIN, PAL...